

PROJECT SUMMARY

SNC Reference Number (enter if previously assigned)
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County: Tuolumne County

Applicant: Tuolumne County Land Trust

Project Title: Tuolumne County Land Trust Capacity Building and Critical Acquisition Planning

Project goal-

Tuolumne County Land Trust (TCLT) is applying for a capacity building and critical acquisition planning grant. This grant would provide needed resources to assist the TCLT with future conservation of private lands within the County of Tuolumne. The funding of this proposal along with organizational changes that are in progress will enable TCLT to more effectively fulfill its mission. It is the mission of the Tuolumne County Land Trust to perpetuate the Tuolumne County area's important landscape values, including agricultural, scenic, natural, historical and recreational lands.

Project scope

With the proposed grant funding for capacity building, the TCLT will become a membership organization to broaden the support base and expand the conservation of lands within Tuolumne County. In addition to capacity building, several planning activities are included in this this proposal:

- * Expand recruitment of TCLT Board members for greater diversity;
- * Develop a membership base and expand the donor base;
- * Expand committees with new members;
- * Develop a regular newsletter;
- * Revise and print a new brochure;
- * Develop a Website and e-mail address for the first time;
- * Pursue partnerships with County Government, RCD, other organizations, and other land trusts;
- * Develop a library, computer and software, filing system, answering machine or service, and other resources to build capacity;
- * Develop and secure a comprehensive GIS compatible database for local sharing with other organizations, agencies and interested parties;
- * Identify possible data gaps needed to complete the database resource mapping effort;
- * Analyze the data secured and identify priorities based of sensitivities of resources and threats to resources;
- * Develop the baseline data for use in creating a critical acquisition plan (CAP) for the TCLT.

Sources of mapped resource information will be gathered into a database and used to identify locations that can benefit greatly from the protection of an easement or related action within Tuolumne County. Existing GIS maps and databases of resources prepared by various agencies operating within Tuolumne County will be purchased with the requested grant funding. The bulk of the resource studies that are planned above are to be conducted by a qualified consultant familiar with Tuolumne County's resources, and paid through the requested grant funds. The contract will be administered by the officers of the TCLT, who have decades of contract administration experience with public agencies for which they have worked as senior staff members.

The TCLT has committed to all of the items listed above, and actions have begun. For instance the make-up of the Board has been discussed with other interested groups by the TCLT Board members and a draft the text for a website has been prepared by a committee. The approval of this grant request will facilitate and exellerate progress.

Larger project goals- A later phase of this project will be the preparation and adoption of a CAP by the TCLT, based upon the baseline information, resources, and studies listed above. When a CAP is prepared at a later date, stakeholder groups, organizations, government agencies and individuals will be included to seek common ground, build consensus, and ultimately result in broad support of identified priorities, resulting in important easements or other actions. The objectives of the TCLT's five year old strategic plan remain valid, it calls for development of a Critical Acquisition Plan (CAP), but progress has been slow toward this goal due to a lack of funding and limited capacity.

Letters of support- A letter of support by the Tuolumne County Trails Council is attached in appendix C. Due to timing, additional letters of support are expected, but not in time for this submission.

Project Deliverables and Schedule

Detailed Project Deliverables	Timeline (completion date)
Board Development	45 days
Printing of Brochure and outreach material*	45 days
Develop website and bring online*	45 days
Membership Drive	60 days
Expansion of committee structure with new members	90 days
Resources- Create central library (books, reference materials), purchase computer and software, gather and organize records in new filing system, establish dedicated phone and answering machine.	90 days
Develop newsletter format and publish first issue*	90 days
Establish GIS data base*	120 days
Report from consultant on recommended items for a new CAP*	120 days
Gap Analysis*	120 days
Develop partnerships/relationships	120 days
Identification of priority acquisitions*	120 days

Note: items with * involve contract services.

Timeline begins upon authorization to spend by SNC. We are requesting executive Officer Authorization on this grant which will hopefully enable earlier progress.

Project Costs-

Work Item	SNC Grant Request
* Expand recruitment of TCLT Board members for greater diversity;	\$500
* Develop a library, computer and software, filing system, answering machine or answering service, and other resources to build capacity;	\$1,800
* Develop a membership base and expand the donor base;	\$1500
* Revise and print a new brochure (500 copies);	\$1000
* Develop a Website and e-mail address for the first time;	\$500
* Expand committees with new members;	\$200
* Develop a regular newsletter (includes formatting and publishing the first newsletter and distributing 250 copies;	\$500
* Revise and print a new brochure (500 copies);	\$1,000
* Pursue partnerships with County Government, RCD, other organizations/agencies and land trusts;	\$500
* Develop and secure a comprehensive GIS compatible database for local sharing with other organizations, agencies and interested parties;	\$10,000
* Identify possible data gaps that would benefit the effort if eliminated;	\$1,000
* Analyze data and identify priorities;	\$3,000
* Contract Administration and performance reporting	\$1,700
SNC GRANT TOTAL	\$23,200